

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3357
ANSWERED ON:05.02.2004
FILLING UP OF VACANCIES IN SAFETY CATEGORY
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways has issued directions to its 16 zones asking them to fill up vacancies in the safety category on priority;
- (b) whether all the vacancies in these zones have been filled up so far;
- (c) whether the main reasons for accidents are also due to shortage of staff;
- (d) if so, the total recruitment made so far; and
- (e) the extent to which the Railways is now fully prepared to protect the railways properly?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL)

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. Occurrence and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and they are filled up by direct recruitment or promotion of serving employees. While a few vacancies are bound to exist in this continuous process at any given point of time, the policy of the Government is to fill up the vacancies promptly.

(c) and (e): No, Sir. To prevent accidents on Indian Railways, necessary measures are taken on a continuous basis. These measures include induction of appropriate modern technologies, upgradation of human resources and more effective and efficient supervision. Action is in progress to fill up the vacancies in Railway Protection Force.

(d): Railway Recruitment Boards have empanelled 5071 candidates against SafetyCategory posts during nine months of the current year i.e. from April 2003 to December 2003. Further action for recruitment of the empanelled candidates is in process.